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BELGIUM NEUTRAL AND LOYAL—THE WAR OF 1914, by Émile Waxweiler, Director of the Solvay Institute of Sociology at Brussels, Member of the Royal Academy of Belgium. New York, G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1915; pp. xi, 324.

This volume by a distinguished Belgian scholar of German training and associations, which has already appeared in French and German, stands out from among the scores of books relating to the outbreak of the war. Considering the provocation to be otherwise, the author is always temperate even when describing the horrors to which his country has been subjected. There is throughout the book a judicial attitude, almost an air of detachment, which few among the eyewitnesses and victims of the greatest crime of modern times, who have written about these things, have been able to maintain. This self-restraint of the writer adds great force to his arguments.

Belgium was obliged to be neutral by the treaty of 1839, and she was bound to protect this neutrality. Dr. WAXWEILER traces Belgium's attitude toward the treaty and shows that at no time before the war was she accused of failing to live up to her obligations. After the occupation of Brussels her loyalty was questioned, and thus insult was added to injury. Much has been made of some documents found by the Germans relating to certain conversations had with the British military attaché. "Conversations" have been twisted into "conventions," and political arrangements have been alleged between Belgium and Great Britain. This matter is patiently and carefully examined and the conclusions ought to convince any fair-minded person. The second part of the book is a consideration of German acts in Belgium: treatment of the civil population, destruction of ancient and artistic monuments, fines, levies, and exactions, as measured by the standard of The Hague Convention, which stated that war should be conducted according to "the laws of humanity and the requirements of the public conscience." Perhaps these are two very different standards. At any rate, such a standard as the first the German War Book denounces as puling childishness. To those who agree with the German War Book this part of the work will not appeal. But it ought to appeal to all those who have an interest in humanity.

J. S. R.

THE MONROE DOCTRINE, AN INTERPRETATION, by Albert Bushnell Hart, Ph.D., Litt.D., LL.D., Professor of the Science of Government in Harvard University. Boston: Little, Brown & Company, 1916; pp. xiv, 445.

Whatever the Monroe Doctrine meant at the beginning, or at the various times in which it has been "invoked," it has come to include, or at least to color, almost everything connected with the policy of the United States toward political conditions in the Western Hemisphere. It remained for a German, KRAUS, to write the most elaborate volume upon the subject. Therein one will find all of the various stages in the development of the doctrine carefully classified and labeled. Professor HART follows closely upon the heels of Dr. KRAUS, and while his work lacks the systematic *Grund-*